

FROM  
THE MINT  
THAT HELPED SHAPE  
FRONTIER HISTORY...





# INTRODUCING THE 1989 U.S. MINT PROOF SET

Superbly crafted proof  
versions of the five  
U.S. circulating  
coins.



*The San Francisco  
Mint, circa 1910*



# COINS OF DAZZLING ARTISTRY— FROM THE CELEBRATED SAN FRANCISCO MINT

The official proof coins of the United States Mint are the highest expressions of the minter's art... objects whose exquisite detailing has fascinated numismatists and beginning collectors since they were first offered to the public more than 130 years ago.

Just as intriguing is the story of the San Francisco Mint—the Mint whose history extends from early operations during the Gold Rush to its role as the designated producer of today's U.S. Mint Proof Sets. To know its proud past is to increase your pleasure in these fine coins—living links to America's heritage.

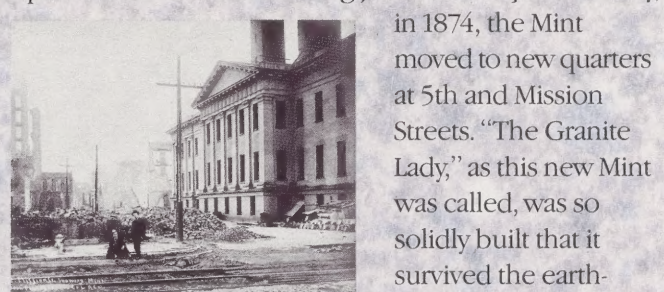
## SERVING THE NEEDS OF AMERICA'S FRONTIER



*The Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint at work in his new office, circa 1874.*

The 1848 discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill attracted thousands of settlers to the western frontier, prompting President Millard Fillmore to recommend that a branch mint be established in California to supply the coinage needs of this new population.

In 1852, Congress authorized a new Mint at San Francisco, to produce coins that would replace the chaotic range of currency—French louis d'ors, Indian rupees, English shillings and Dutch guilders—then in widespread use.



*The second San Francisco Mint, affectionately known as "The Granite Lady," was one of the few buildings to survive the earthquake of 1906.*

For 10 years, the San Francisco Mint conducted operations in a small building just 60 feet square. Finally, in 1874, the Mint moved to new quarters at 5th and Mission Streets. "The Granite Lady," as this new Mint was called, was so solidly built that it survived the earthquake of 1906—becoming a temporary center for relief and financial transactions conducted in the wake of the disaster.

## A NEW ROLE FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO MINT

In 1937, the Mint moved to its present facility, and continued coining operations until the mid-1950's, when its duties were limited to conducting assay functions, including receipts of gold and silver deposits. However, in the early 1960's, as America faced a nation-wide coin shortage,

the San Francisco Assay Office was once again authorized to strike circulating coins. In 1968, the Assay Office was selected to produce Proof Coin Sets—a role it continues to fulfill today as the newly redesignated San Francisco Mint.



*Today's San Francisco Mint is not only the designated producing Mint for proof sets of circulating U.S. coinage, but also produces special commemorative coin issues.*

## CREATED TO THE MOST EXACTING STANDARDS

The execution of U.S. Mint proof coins is among the most rigorously controlled in the world. Every aspect of production must satisfy the highest specifications.

The dies for striking proof coins are meticulously processed to create a frosted appearance, after which the image is covered, and the exposed surface hand-polished and buffed to a mirror-like finish. The resulting effect of the frosted cameo image on mirrored field produces the distinctive appearance of a proof coin.

During the striking process, coins are hand-fed into specially adapted presses, and struck at least twice to ensure clarity of detail. The finished coins are then carefully inspected—with gloved hands to protect their surfaces—before being assembled into sets. They are then placed into transparent presentation cases which are sonically sealed to keep out dust and moisture.



*Each proof coin is meticulously inspected to ensure that only coins meeting the highest standards of quality are released to the public.*

## YOURS TO TREASURE FOR JUST \$11.00

The superb artistry of the 1989 Proof Coin Set—five dazzling coins including the Kennedy half dollar, Washington quarter, Jefferson nickel, Roosevelt dime and Lincoln cent—is available now, directly from the U.S. Mint.

A "must" for serious and new collectors, the 1989 Proof Set is still just \$11.00—a small price for coins whose craftsmanship will afford you many hours of enjoyment.

Attractively presented in a special case and folder, the sets also make excellent gifts for friends and family on any occasion.

Don't miss this opportunity to add to your collection or begin one. Use the convenient order form to send for your 1989 U.S. Mint Proof Set today.





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# *How to order your 1989 Proof Set*

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Ordering your Proof Set is easy—simply fill out the enclosed order card, making sure to include any change of address. Then use the enclosed pre-addressed envelope to mail the card with your remittance.

Many of our customers find that family and friends appreciate receiving these beautiful coins as gifts. Don't hesitate to purchase additional sets, since there is no limit to the number of 1989 Proof Sets you can order.

Please allow at least eight weeks for delivery. Checks will be deposited and credit card orders billed upon receipt by the Mint. Once accepted, all sales are final.



**United States Mint**  
P.O. Box 8666  
Philadelphia, PA 19162-0015

United States Mint numismatic programs are self-supporting. All proceeds from sales, after reimbursement for costs, are deposited to the General Fund of the United States Treasury.

Designed and printed in the U.S.A.

A  
MESSAGE  
FROM THE  
DIRECTOR OF THE  
U.S. MINT



### **Dear U.S. Mint Customer:**

I am pleased to introduce the 1989 United States Mint Proof Sets. Among the finest examples of the minter's art in the world, they are exceptional additions to any collection – whether you are an experienced numismatist or a beginning collector.

### **Coins Created to the Highest Specifications**

Each 1989 Proof Set contains five lustrous examples of proof coins – a Lincoln cent, Jefferson nickel, Roosevelt dime, Washington quarter and Kennedy half dollar – featuring the distinctive two-tone effect of a frosted cameo image on a brilliant reflective surface. Each bears the "S" mint mark of the San Francisco Mint, designated producer of official proof coin sets of circulating U.S. coinage. In the accompanying brochure, you will read about the exciting history of this Mint, as well as the meticulous processes by which our proof coins are produced.

These exquisitely finished coins have been individually struck and closely inspected to ensure the highest level of quality. Each is a superbly crafted piece of history you'll treasure for years. In addition to being an enduring link to our national heritage, the 1989 Proof Coin Set is an exceptional value – priced at \$11.00 since 1981.

This is a very affordable way to add to an existing collection or to start a new one. To order your sets – for yourself, or for your family and friends as gifts – please fill out the enclosed order card and return it in the pre-addressed envelope with your remittance.

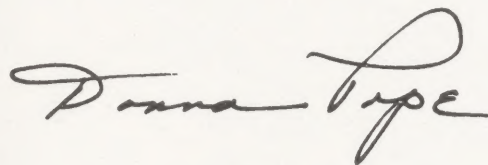
### **Accept Our Thanks...And This Invitation**

We truly appreciate your dedication to numismatics and your continued interest in coins issued by the U.S. Mint. Thank you for your part in making coin collecting a lasting American tradition.

So that you may enjoy an increased awareness of the coin collecting hobby, I encourage you to visit one of the three Mint facilities open to the public. Mints in Denver and Philadelphia offer scheduled tours allowing you a fascinating look at the production of modern coinage. In San Francisco, you can tour the exhibits at the Old Mint, where whole chapters from the history of numismatics come alive.

Let me conclude by thanking you for being one of our valued customers. We hope to continue serving you through the year and for many years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Donna Pope". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Donna" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Pope".

Donna Pope  
Director of the U.S. Mint



**Our Customer Service Center Is Here To Help You**

If you have questions about any program, or wish to inquire about the status of your order, please call (301) 436-7400 during standard business hours (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST), or write to:

Customer Service Center  
United States Mint  
10001 Aerospace Drive  
Lanham, Maryland 20706

Please do not contact any other Mint facility – even if one is located near you. These are primarily production facilities and are not equipped to handle your inquiries as effectively as the Customer Service Center.

If you prefer to write, remember to include your full name, account number (if applicable), the method of payment, and your daytime telephone number. We will respond to your inquiry as quickly as possible.



# THE 1989 UNITED STATES MINT PROOF SET

USE THIS ENVELOPE TO MAIL YOUR ORDER OR TO PLACE YOUR NAME ON OUR MAILING LIST